

FACT SHEET

ISSUANCE OF A GENERAL VPDES PERMIT TO DISCHARGE TO STATE WATERS AND STATE CERTIFICATION UNDER THE STATE WATER CONTROL LAW

The Virginia State Water Control Board has under consideration the issuance of a VPDES general permit for point source discharges from facilities discharging coin operated laundry wastewater to the surface waters of the State of Virginia. This rulemaking is proposed in order to establish appropriate and necessary permitting requirements for discharges of wastewater from coin operated laundries. The proposed regulation will set forth standard language for effluent limitations and monitoring requirements necessary to relate this category of dischargers.

Permit Number: VAG72

Name of Permittee: Any owner of a qualifying coin operated laundry with point source discharges to the surface waters of the State of Virginia.

Facility Location: Commonwealth of Virginia

Receiving Waters: Surface waters within the boundaries of the Commonwealth of Virginia, except those specifically named in Board Regulations or Policies which prohibit such discharges.

The proposed permit action is tentative. On the basis of preliminary review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the State Water Control Board proposes to issue the general VPDES permit subject to certain conditions. The Board has determined that this category of discharges is appropriately controlled under a general permit. The category of discharges to be included involves facilities with the same or similar types of operations and the facilities discharge the same or similar types of wastes. The draft general permit requires that all covered facilities meet standardized effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.

Persons may comment in writing or by mail to DEQ on the proposed permit action within 30 days from March 11, 2005. Comments should be addressed to the contact person listed below. Comments shall include the name, address, and telephone number of the writer, and shall contain a complete, concise statement of the factual basis for comments. Only those comments received within this period will be considered by the Board.

All pertinent information is on file and may be inspected, and arrangements made for copying by contacting George Cosby at:

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 10009
Richmond, Virginia 23240
(804) 698-4067
gecosby@deq.virginia.gov

A public hearing will be held on this draft permit. Notice of the public hearing will be published in newspapers and in the Virginia Register. Following the public hearing comment period, the Board will make determinations regarding the proposed permit action.

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Activities Covered By This General Permit:

This general permit will cover point source discharges of coin operated laundry wastewater to surface waters of the State by direct point sources. The type of systems to be covered shall include wastewater generated from coin operated laundries designated by SIC 7215. This permit does not cover facilities that engage in drycleaning.

Proposed Limitations and Monitoring Requirements:

Effluent limitations for coin operated laundries are as follows:

<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Limitation</u>	<u>Monitoring</u>
Flow	Monitoring	Estimate
pH	9.0 max., 6.0 min.*	Grab
Total Suspended Solids	60 mg/l max.	Grab
BOD ₅	60 mg/l max.	Grab
Dissolved Oxygen	6.0 mg/l min.*	Grab
Temperature °C	32 **	Immersion Stabilization
Total Residual Chlorine	11 ug/l*	Grab
E. coli	235 n/100 ml max.	Grab

* Where the Water Quality Standards (9 VAC 25-260-00 et seq.) establish alternate standards for pH, BOD₅, DO, TRC, and Temperature in waters receiving the discharge, those standards shall be the maximum and minimum effluent limitations. E.coli is in accordance with the disinfection policy of 9 VAC 25-260-170.B (Water Quality Standards).

** The effluent temperature shall not exceed a maximum 32⁰C for discharges to non-tidal coastal and piedmont waters, 31⁰C for mountain and upper piedmont waters, 21⁰C for put and take trout waters, or 20⁰C for natural trout waters. For estuarine waters, non-tidal coastal and piedmont waters, mountain and upper piedmont waters, and put and take trout waters, the effluent shall not cause an increase in temperature of the receiving stream of more than 3⁰C above the natural water temperature. For natural trout waters, the temperature of the effluent shall not cause an increase of 1⁰C above natural water temperature. The effluent shall not cause the temperature in the receiving stream to change more than 2⁰C per hour, except in the case of natural trout waters where the hourly temperature change shall not exceed 0.5⁰C.

Two monitoring scenarios are proposed. Flow, pH, TSS, BOD₅, DO, TRC, are required to be monitored once per quarter. Temperature and E.coli are required to be monitored once per six months.

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Basis for Proposed Effluent Limitations and Monitoring Requirements

The Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed this category of discharger and concluded, in their Guidance Document for Effluent Discharges From the Auto and Other Laundries Point Source Category, dated February 1982, that the amounts and toxicity of pollutants in the discharges from these facilities did not justify national regulations.

In developing the proposed effluent limitations and special conditions the following information was reviewed. The permitting strategies, effluent limitations, treatment technologies and special conditions that are being employed by the Department of Environmental Quality and the surrounding states for individual and general VPDES permits issued to coin operated laundries and the Environmental Protection Agency's Guidance Document for Effluent Discharges from the Auto and Other Laundries Point Source Category.

Determined by the nature of the business, the parameters to be limited in this general VPDES permit are pH, total suspended solids, BOD₅, dissolved oxygen, temperature, total residual chlorine, and E. coli. The pH, temperature, E.coli, dissolved oxygen, total residual chlorine limitations are based upon Virginia's stream water quality standards (9 VAC 25-260-50 et seq. and 9 VAC 25-260-380 et seq.). The total suspended solids and BOD₅ parameters are based on best engineering judgment for the type of treatment employed by these systems. Complying with these parameters is an indication that the treatment system is being operated and maintained properly and is producing an acceptable quality effluent.

These are generally facilities that are located in rural areas and are not served by central sewerage facilities.

Proposed Special Conditions

1. The permittee shall notify the Department as soon as they know or have reason to believe:
 - a. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant which is not limited in this permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following notification levels:
 - (1) One hundred micrograms per liter;
 - (2) Two hundred micrograms per liter for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter for antimony;
 - (3) Five times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or
 - (4) The level established by the Board.
 - b. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a nonroutine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in this permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following notification levels:
 - (1) Five hundred micrograms per liter;
 - (2) One milligram per liter for antimony;
 - (3) Ten times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application; or

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(4) The level established by the Board.

Required by VPDES Permit Regulation, 9 VAC 25-31-200 A for all manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural discharges.

2. Operation and Maintenance Manual Requirement. The permittee shall develop an Operations and Maintenance (O & M) Manual for the treatment works. This manual shall detail the practices and procedures which will be followed to ensure compliance with the requirements of this permit. The manual shall be submitted for staff approval within 90 days of [the effective date of this permit OR completion of construction]. The permittee shall operate the treatment works in accordance with the approved O & M Manual. This manual shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following items, as appropriate:

- a. Techniques to be employed in the collection, preservation, and analysis of effluent samples;
- b. Discussion of Best Management Practices, if applicable;
- c. Treatment system design, treatment system operation, routine preventive maintenance of units within the treatment system, critical spare parts inventory and record keeping; and
- d. A Sludge/Solids Disposal Plan.

Required by Code of Virginia § 62.1-44.16; VPDES Permit Regulation, 9 VAC 25-31-190 E, and 40 CFR 122.41(e). These require proper operation and maintenance of the permitted facility. Compliance with an approval O&M manual ensures this.

3. The permit prohibits adding chemicals to the water or waste which may be discharged other than those listed on the owner's accepted registration statement, unless prior approval of the chemical(s) is granted by the Department of Environmental Quality

In order to assure protection of water quality and beneficial uses of the waters receiving the discharge.

4. There shall be no discharge of floating solids or visible foam in other than trace amounts.

This language is included in keeping with DEQ's pollution prevention philosophy.

5. Compliance Reporting under Part I A (use for permit with water quality-based limits for toxics or conventional pollutants in Part I A. Modify this example as needed for effluent parameters in the permit.)

- a. The quantification levels (QL) shall be as follows:

<u>Effluent Characteristic</u>	<u>Quantification Level</u>
BOD5	5 mg/l
TSS	1.0 mg/l
Chlorine	0.1 mg/l

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b. Reporting

Daily Maximum -- Compliance with the daily maximum limitations and/or reporting requirements for the parameters listed in Part I A and B shall be determined as follows: All concentration data below the QL listed in a. above shall be treated as zero. All concentration data equal to or above the QL shall be treated as reported. An arithmetic average shall be calculated using all reported data, including the defined zeros, collected within each day during the reporting month. The maximum value of these daily averages thus determined shall be reported on the DMR as the Daily Maximum. If all data are below the QL, then the average shall be reported as "<QL". If reporting for quantity is required on the DMR and the calculated concentration is <QL, then report "<QL" for the quantity. Otherwise use the calculated concentration.

c. Any single datum required shall be reported as "<QL" if it is less than the QL in a. above. Otherwise the numerical value shall be reported.

d. Monitoring results shall be reported using the same number of significant digits as listed in the permit.

Authorized by VPDES Permit Regulation, 9 VAC 25-31-190 J 4 and 220 I. This condition is necessary when toxic pollutants are monitored by the permittee and a maximum level of quantification and/or a specific analytical method is required in order to assess compliance with a permit limit or to compare effluent quality with a numeric criterion. The condition also establishes protocols for calculation of reported values.

6. If the discharge is into a municipal separate storm sewer the permittee is required to notify the owner of the municipal separate storm sewer system of the existence of the discharge within 30 days of coverage under the general permit and provide the following information: the name of the facility; a contact person and phone number; and the location of the discharge.

7. No sewage shall be discharged from a point source to surface waters from this facility except under the provisions of another VPDES permit specifically issued for that purpose.

The effluent limitations do not address pollutants typical of treated sewage, therefore no sewage discharge to surface waters are permitted under the general permit.

Administrative

The general permit will have a fixed term of five years. Every authorization under this general permit will expire at the same time and all authorizations will be renewed on the same date, provided a complete registration statement has been filed prior to the general permit's expiration date.

All owners/operators desiring to be covered by this general permit must register with the Department by filing a registration statement and payment of applicable fees. The registration statement shall be submitted and a notification of coverage issued prior to any discharges or other activities for which this permit is required. Coin operated laundries that are discharging to surface waters on the effective date of this general permit and which have not been issued an individual VPDES permit, may submit the registration statement.

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Existing operations with individual VPDES permits that wish to seek coverage under the proposed general permit would have to file a registration statement at least 180 days prior to the expiration date of the individual VPDES permit. For all new dischargers that will begin activities after the effective date of this permit, the registration statement shall be filed at least 30 days prior to the commencement of operation of the coin operated laundry.

This general permit does not cover activities or discharges covered by an individual VPDES permit until the individual permit has expired or has been revoked. Any person conducting an activity covered by an individual permit, which could be covered by this general permit, may request that the individual permit be revoked and register for coverage under this general permit. Any owner or operator not wishing to be covered or limited by this general permit may make application for an individual VPDES permit, in accordance with VPDES procedures, stating the reasons supporting the request.

This general permit does not apply to any new or increased discharge that will result in significant effects to the receiving waters. That determination is made in accordance with the State Water Control Board's Antidegradation Policy contained in the Virginia Water Quality Standards, 9VAC 25-260-30 et seq.

This general permit will maintain the Water Quality Standards adopted by the Board. All facilities that the Department believes are eligible for coverage under this general permit will be authorized to discharge under the terms and conditions of the permit after a complete registration statement is submitted, the applicable permit fee is paid, and the Department sends a copy of the general permit to the applicant. If this general permit is inappropriate, the applicant will be so notified.

Coin operated laundries with point source discharges that do not qualify for coverage under this general permit may make application for an individual VPDES permit.